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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: **OTA, Michihiro, et al.**

Group Art Unit: **3653**

Serial No.: **10/507,219**

Examiner: **Not Yet Assigned**

Filed: **September 16, 2004**

P.T.O. Confirmation No.: **5562**

For: **CASHLESS VENDING SYSTEM AND METHOD, VENDING MACHINE  
AND CENTER DEVICE**

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.97(b)**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

March 8, 2006

Sir:

The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. One copy of each of these documents is attached.

No fee or certification is required in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement, since it is being submitted prior to the issuance of a first official action on the merits or expiration of the three month period following the filing date or the entry of the national stage of the above-captioned application.

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office can, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the documents cited in the attached Form PTO-1449 be made of record therein and appear on the first page of any patent to issue therefrom.



The Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 01-2340 for any fee which is deemed by the Patent and Trademark Office to be required to effect consideration of this statement.

Respectfully submitted,

ARMSTRONG, KRATZ, QUINTOS,  
HANSON & BROOKS, LLP

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "William L. Brooks".

William L. Brooks  
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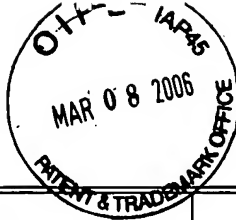
WLB/lrj  
Atty. Docket No. 040475  
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1725 K Street, N.W.  
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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Enclosures: PTO-1449; References (2) and  
Office Action from People's Republic of China dated 2/10/06.



<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION PTO-1449</b>	Atty. Docket No. <b>040475</b>	Serial No. <b>10/507,219</b>
	Applicant(s): <b>OTA, Michihiro, et al.</b>	
	Filing Date: <b>September 16, 2004</b>	Group Art Unit: <b>3653</b>

#### U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document No.	Name	Date	Class	Subclass	Filing Date (If appropriate)
_____	AA					
_____	AB					
_____	AC					
_____	AD					
_____	AE					

#### FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Document No.	Date	Country	Translation (Yes or No)
_____ AF 2000-48260	2/18/00	Japan	Abstract
_____ AG 2001-5883	1/12/01	Japan	Abstract
_____ AH			
_____ AI			
_____ AJ			

#### OTHER DOCUMENTS

_____	AK	Office Action from People's Republic of China dated 2/10/06.
_____	AL	
Examiner		Date Considered